North Eastern Region, no major discoveries etc. have adversely affected the reserve accretion. In so far as ONGC is concerned, the results of exploration activities so far indicate that the onland areas are doing well with positive growth in accretion pattern, where as a significant breakthrough in offshore areas is yet to be made. With moving over to deepwater in a focussed way and new leads obtained in offshore, ONGC expects good accretion in in-place hydrocarbon in the terminal year of IX Plan.

Benami LPG Agencies

1072. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that a number of LPG benami agencies are functioning throughout the country in violation of ownership norms fixed by Government;

(b) if so, the details of such agencies;

(c) whether Government have cancelled their allotment and kept these outlets for further allotment by the Oil Selection Board; and

(d) what other action Government have taken or propose to take against these benami agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Disbanding of OSBs

1073. PROF RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact, that this Ministry has disbanded all the 60 Oil Selection Boards set up by Government for allotting petrol pumps and LPG agencies throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what other alternative method Government have devised for allotting the petrol pumps and Gas agencies in the absence of Oil Selection Boards?